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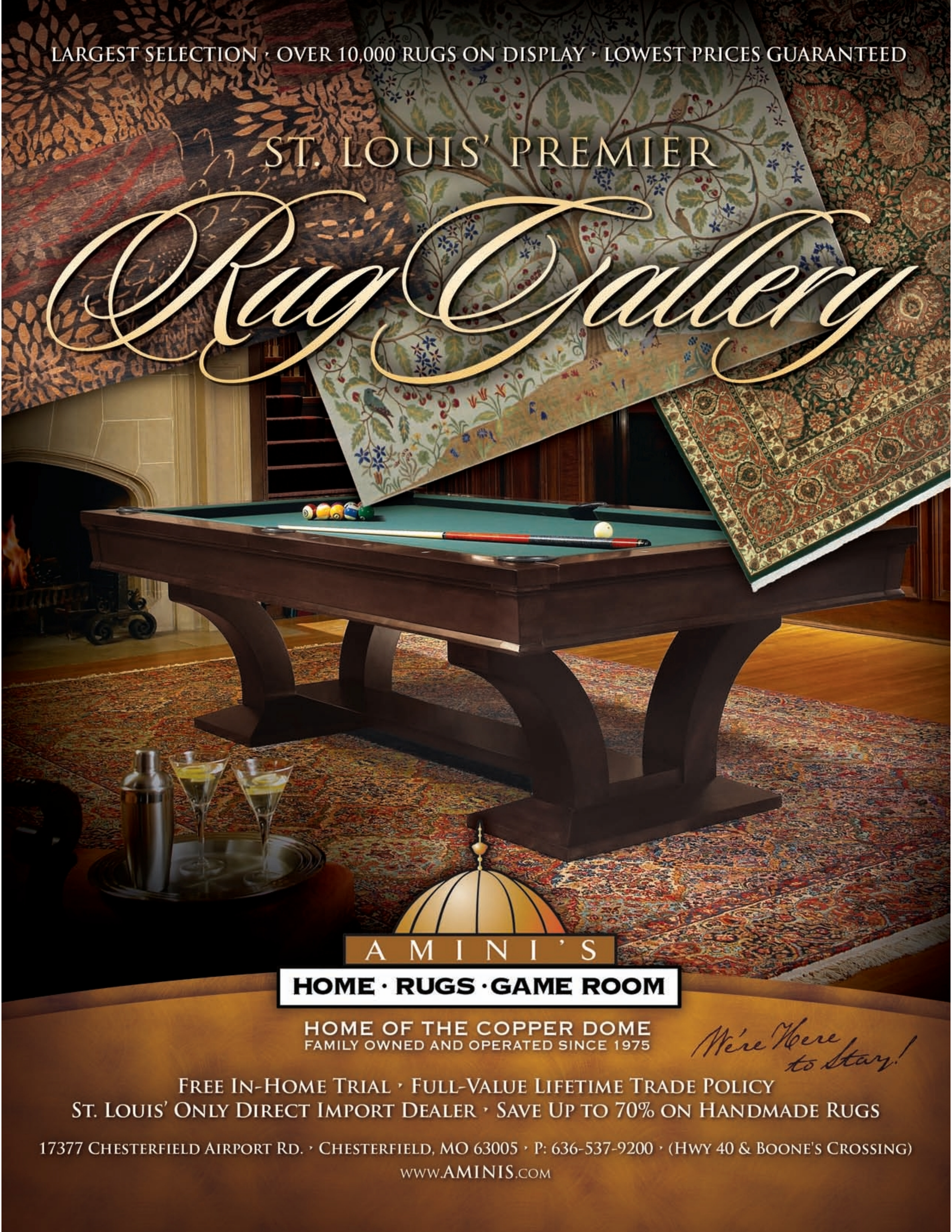
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September 2009

features

on the cover

Waterfront living in Grafton, Illinois – a short distance from St. Louis – at Windrivers Condominiums evokes a relaxed lifestyle.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROB GRIMM













Discover fashionable frocks from The Little Black Dress in **Build New Suburban**; A scrumptious dessert was a hit at Malmaison in **Toss a Party**; Browse timeless treasures in our **Obsession** department, such as this early 19th-century-style sideboard from Dau Home Furnishings, 15424 Manchester Rd., 636-394-3005, www.daufurniture.com.

departments

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Lovely Treasures



ALL PHOTOGRAPHY BY COLIN MILLER/ STRAUSS PEYTON

"Things are beautiful if you love them." Jean Anouilh, (1910- 1987), French playwright

Simply said, and it is a lovely way to look at life. Our issue is filled with one opportunity after another to fall in love with captivating art, antiques and timeless treasures, homes and gardens. And the inspirational stories – the ones that swirled around our featured objets d'art, homes and garden of the year – touched my heart. Preparing this issue was such an exciting process. I couldn't wait to share it with you.

Our Obsession department begins a mini trip through history that continues through the magazine, ending with the dramatic transformation of a Webster Groves home. The front porch will likely draw us all to the outdoors to fashion spaces where life unfolds – hopefully on a porch swing – one evening at a time.

"Spotlight Space" features Dromcastle and showcases craftsmen whose labor of love resulted in a one-of-a-kind "dream castle." One can only imagine the myriad of stories, through many generations, that will encircle the magnificent home – pictures and words that will live forever.

Our breathtaking Illinois feature is set in the quaint, historic town of Grafton – only a 30-minute drive from St. Louis or a memorable ferry boat ride from St. Charles. With its scenic ambience and its revitalized Main Street, the quintessential destination spot is also a wonderful place to call home.

An extraordinary suburban home is a superb example of living within history while enjoying all of the modern conveniences of the 21st century. Again, craftsmanship prevails, adding authentic detail and formality to the period-perfect spaces.

And our winning garden of the year is one that begins with an amazing story, and over the course of several years, unfolds with grace and good fortune into one of the area's loveliest gardens to behold. From England to the United States, a color-filled garden blossoms with the talent and perseverance of English flower expert Joy Brittle and St. Louisan Ann Roberts. Get ready to fall in love.

Vicki

Vicki Pickle, Editor-in-Chief
vpickle@stlouishomesmag.com

PS – Watch for Dromcastle on our upcoming Luxury Home Tour in October!



SLHL's 2009 SUMMER INTERNS

BARBARA PFITZINGER, left, our editorial intern, attends the University of Missouri School of Journalism. She studied journalism in Paris, France and is also completing a minor in French.

MEGAN BARRY, middle, our marketing intern, is a senior at Missouri State University and pursuing a degree in interior design. She is looking forward to working in the family business.

SHELBY ROTHMAN, right, is our marketing intern and a senior at the University of Missouri School of Journalism. She enjoys traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Meet our distinguished panel of judges for our 2009 Garden of the Year contest. *See the winner on page 42.*



LUCYANN BOSTON is an Advanced Master Gardener and journalist, with experience writing for a variety of publications. She combines her interests through her work as the garden writer for *St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles.* She also has a background in real estate writing and is a sales associate with Laura McCarthy Real Estate.



JUDY MOSKOFF is a member of the National Garden Writers Association and has been a Master Gardener since 1996. She volunteers with the St. Louis County Parks Department at the Museum of Transportation, has been on the Gateway Greening Board for 10 years, and is a member of the Operation Brightside Advisory Board. Judy is also a radio personality with her gardening show, "A Gardener's Notebook."



JENNIFER SCHAMBER is the General Manager of Greenscape Gardens, a family-owned garden center. She is a Master Gardener and serves on the boards of the Landscape and Nurserymen's Association of Greater St. Louis and the Horticulture Co-Op of Metro St. Louis. Her efforts in encouraging sustainable gardening helped Greenscape earn national recognition in *Today's Garden Center* magazine.









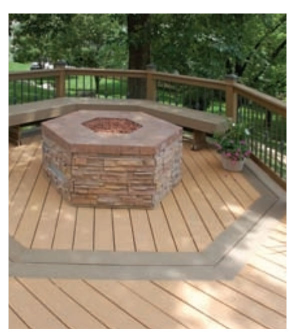














Timeless Treasures

From antiques to reproductions, these fabulous finds will fill your home with character and style.

BY KATIE UNDERHILL

1



2



4



3



5



6



one. Vintage French country occasional chair punctuated with damask fabric, available at Recycled Rose, 421 N. Sappington Rd., 314-822-2857. **two.** 1930s French toile chair, available at The White Rabbit, 9241 Manchester Rd., 314-963-9784. **three.** Victorian chair with updated velvet damask fabric, available at Warson Woods Antique Gallery, 10091 Manchester Rd., 314-909-0123, www.warsonwoodsantiques.com. **four.** Milner mahogany antique reproduction storage end table, available at Shubert Design, 161 Gaywood, 636-394-2220, www.shubertdesign.com. **five.** Green and white vintage-inspired Somerset Bay handcrafted tables, available at The Designing Block, 314-721-4224, www.thedesigningblock.net. **six.** Antique Chinese red lacquer desk, c. 1820, available at Heirlooms, 32 N. Brentwood Blvd., 314-862-7757.


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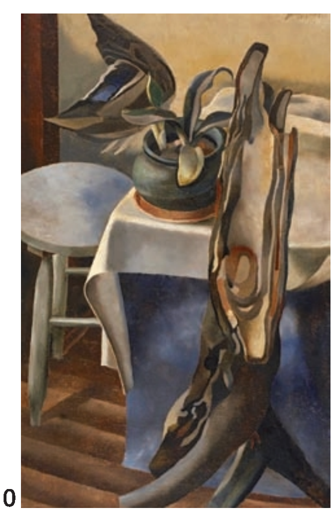
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10

one & five. Early 1800s bronze clock; hand-painted early 1900s Ansonia Bunn clock from Timekeepers, 17 N. Meramec, 314-721-4548. **two.** Old Paris porcelain dish with carnelian border, c. 1810, from Clark Graves Antiques, 132 N. Meramec Ave., www.clarkgravesantiques.com. **three.** Hand-painted porcelain vase; Belgian antique porcelain vase from Diane Breckenridge Interiors, 314-727-2323, www.breckenridgeinteriors.com. **four.** Jules Chéret poster, 1897, from Jules L. Pass Antiques, Ltd., 9916 Clayton Road, 314-991-1522. **six.** Early 1800s French grandfather clock from Three French Hens, 16935 Manchester Rd., www.threefrenchhensantiques.com. **seven & eight.** William Glackens, *Rose in a vase*, 1918; Huldah Mae Cherry, *Dessert in the Garden*, c. 1920 from Kodner Gallery, 9650 Clayton Rd., www.kodnergallery.com. **nine & ten.** Early 18th century tapestry; Joseph Jones oil on canvas from Ivey-Selkirk Auctioneers, 7447 Forsyth Blvd., www.iveyselkirk.com.

Obsession Art & Antiques

...more must-have unique finds

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



one. Vintage 1950s Magic Chef stove from The White Rabbit, 9241 Manchester Rd., 314-963-9784. **two & seven.** 1960s and 1970s vintage pins and a 1930s art deco cosmetic case from Francesca's Resale, 433 Jackson St., 314-537-6718. **three.** French carousel horse with original paint, c. 1880, from Jules L. Pass Antiques, Ltd., 9916 Clayton Rd., 314-991-1522. **four.** 1940s antique rooster vinegar and oil holder with salt and pepper wings, from Recycled Rose, 421 N. Sappington Rd., 314-822-2857. **five.** Original Columbia Grafonola, c. 1915, from Davis Place Antiques, 7731 Clayton Road, 314-727-9850. **six.** Old Paris porcelain figure of Napoleon, French, c. 1810, from Clark Graves Antiques, 132 N. Meramec Ave., 314-725-2695, www.clarkgravesantiques.com.



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Local Builders Create a Legacy Home that Heralds Happily Ever After



BY JUDY UELK
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY BY COLIN MILLER/ STRAUSS PEYTON
ENVIRONMENT PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID KREUTZ

Driving up to this exquisite residence, you almost expect to see Cinderella and her prince awaiting your arrival. Dromcastle, which means "dream castle" or "intimate castle," is indeed a fairytale come true for its builders and craftsmen, David Kreutz, Matt Walter and Bruce Glass.

Located in a gated community and resting on more than five acres in the heart of Wildhorse Creek Valley, this elegant estate is a perfect example of Old World architecture meeting New World vision. Sure to become a home with a historic legacy, Dromcastle was constructed with only the finest quality materials from around the world. Its feeling reflects that of a French chateau with contemporary Scottish influences. Art history aficionados, Matt, David and Bruce looked to the past to make this new home a paragon of those that came before it.

Attention to detail is truly the hallmark of this magnificent house. The builders' dedication to making every inch of Dromcastle special is evident the moment you set foot inside this nearly 11,000-square-foot masterpiece. A sweeping carved stone spiral staircase greets you as you begin your journey into this residential marvel. "Each step is 522 pounds of Kansas limestone," says Matt.

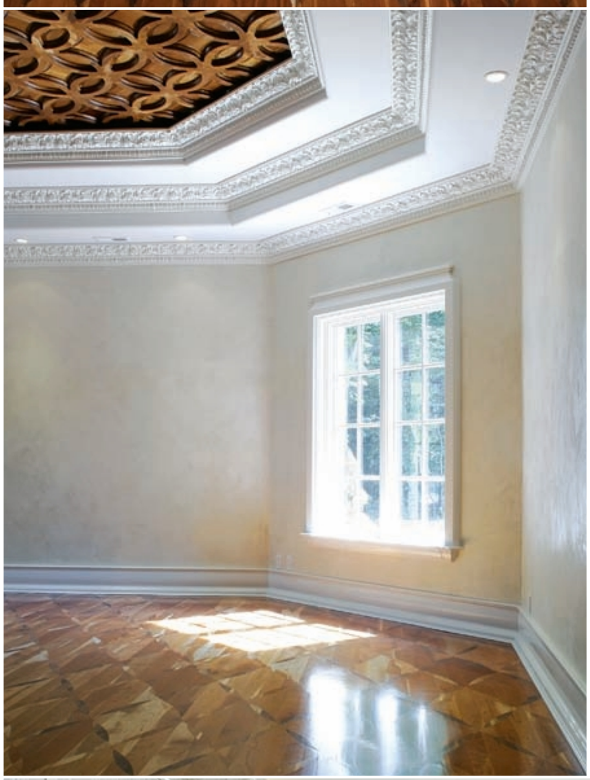
Intricately laid floorings are designed with a variety of rich hardwoods and are a trademark for these builders, who are indeed true artisans. The soaring ceilings of patterned American cherry in the great room and master bedroom suite are works of art in themselves. Designed by Matt to incorporate both masculine and feminine components, "the elements of the ceiling converse with each other to create visual interest," he says. Plus, hundreds of fiber-optic lights create a twinkling, starry canopy above. "It's very romantic," says David.

The master suite is a spectacular retreat for

"We wanted to build the greatest house in the world."

"Even though this is a large house, it uses great natural materials."





the end of a busy day – with triple-coffered crown moldings (designed to resemble a wedding cake), a see-through fireplace, sitting room, exercise area, steam shower, double dressing areas and heated marble flooring.

The centrally located gourmet kitchen is a cook's dream space and is truly the heart of the home. It's outfitted with top-of-the-line Viking and Sub-Zero appliances, two expansive islands topped with Verona marble, and a huge "secret" pantry. Glass-fronted upper cabinets that flank a kitchen window were once each half of a French armoire.

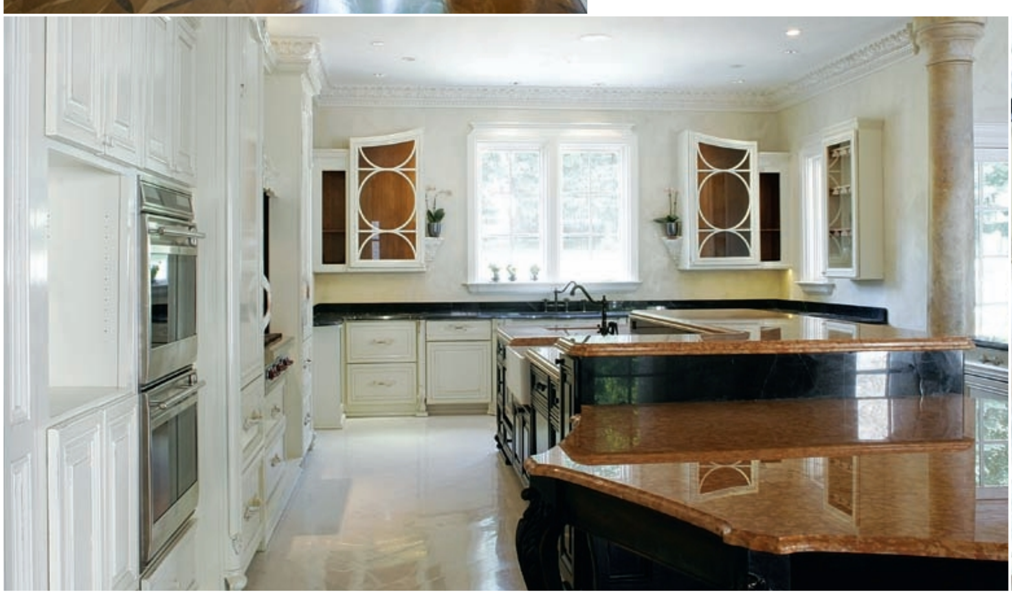
An entire guest wing could also find favor as an office or additional living quarters. It is complete with its own entrance, kitchen, full bath and private panoramic pool views.

And although Dromcastle is an exceptionally expansive property, Matt, David and Bruce have been very conscious of making it as eco-friendly as possible. "Even though this is a large house," they say, "it uses great natural materials." They have also installed the latest in "smart house" technology and security throughout.

The theatre is extraordinary and worthy of its place in the home with $250,000 worth of state-of-the-art electronics. Acoustic panels hidden beneath fabric-covered walls transport the sound and bounce it perfectly to each individual seat. "Designing and building this theatre was so expensive," say David, "We weren't sure it was really going to be worth it. Then we watched Master and Commander!" Enough said.

For Matt, David and Bruce, a passion for perfection and incredible craftsmanship were just the right tools to make their dream a reality. •

Opposite page: (left to right) Builders/craftsmen Bruce Glass, Matt Walter and David Kreutz on the home's sweeping, majestic staircase. **Top left:** The family room features a limestone fireplace and marble mantel. A compass rose inlay spotlights the cherry and walnut floor. Double French doors lead to one of many terraces. **Middle left:** Triple-coffered crown molding in the master suite sets the stage for the artistically designed ceiling, featuring a curvilinear pattern using American cherry wood. **Below left:** Italian marble shines throughout the gourmet kitchen. The ogee counter edge is an example of the builders' attention to exquisite detail. **Below right:** Stunning black lacquered solid cherry cabinetry with a worn appearance makes a striking statement in the spectacular kitchen. *See page 74 for resources.*






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Stephanie Stokes, Gallery Director of Kodner Gallery, has a passion for art and has found her own niche.

EDITED BY VICKI PICKLE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY COLIN MILLER/STRAUSS PEYTON

ART Q+A

Kodner Gallery is recognized for their knowledge and service in the appraising, buying and selling of fine and rare artworks. *SLHL* recently visited with Gallery Director Stephanie Stokes, and she shared her suggestions on a variety of fine-art-related topics.

Get educated before you buy. Visit local galleries and museums, especially when traveling to other cities and countries. Ask the opinion of a professional in the art world. At Kodner Gallery, Stephanie, Jon or David Kodner offer personalized consultation services for the beginner as well as the experienced collector.

Know your source. Get to know whom you are doing business with. Ask questions. How long has the gallery or dealer been in business? Do they specialize in a specific kind of art? Are they specialists in conservation and restoration? Most importantly, do they guarantee what they sell? Also, if you are seeking an appraisal of your fine art, is the appraiser a certified member of a national or international appraiser's association?

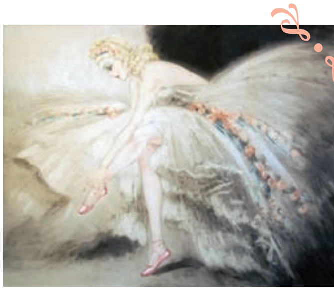
Buy within your budget. High quality, original artwork by accredited artists is accessible to those on a budget or just getting started. For instance, Kodner Gallery has a wide selection of works by regional and local artists that are priced well for the new collector.

Think about placement. When selecting your artwork, consider the space in which it will go and what kind of atmosphere this will create. Placement can be a factor in the long-term conservation of your art. For example, works on paper such as watercolors, drawings and prints should be kept out of direct sunlight and framed with UV protective glass or Plexiglas.

Framing should complement your art and your space. When choosing a frame, consider the interior design and architectural elements of your home or office. The right frame can enhance your artwork as well as the surrounding space. Framing specialists use state-of-the-art framing materials that are both stylish and of archival quality.

Mix things up and have fun. Collecting fine art is an enjoyable way to expand your knowledge, develop your eye and diversify your investments. Explore a variety of subjects, styles and periods, as well as various mediums such as works on paper, sculpture and decorative arts, such as glass, ceramics and period furniture.

"Most importantly, you should buy what you love."



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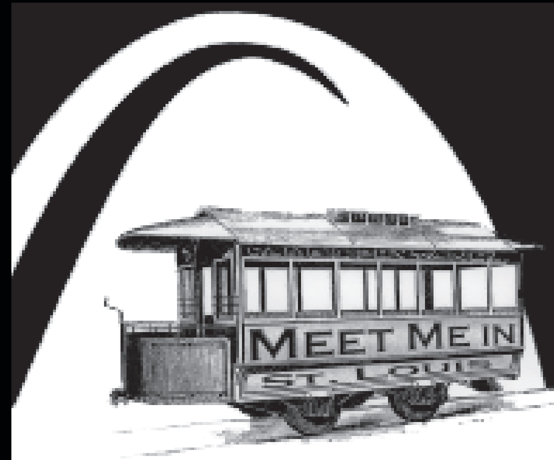












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MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS!



Delicious Destination

The picturesque setting of The Gardens at Malmaison at St. Albans lends itself to memorable gatherings.

BY VICKI PICKLE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG RANNELLS

For Melinda McCarthy, Renée Allen and Mary Ann Pierce, joining friends for a casual get-together at The Gardens at Malmaison for a Friday night "Girls Night Out" was the perfect way to kick off the weekend. Against the picturesque backdrop of historic St. Albans, the evening began with Malmaison's signature cocktails and appetizers. The delicious spread was followed by a scrumptious dinner and ended with a Signature St. Albans almond cookie basket filled with French vanilla ice cream, seasonal berries and topped with divine chocolate and caramel sauce.

Datra Herzog, owner of The Gardens at Malmaison, says, "Whether you're dining indoors in the bar, in our Provence room, or having a casual girls' night dining in the gardens, Malmaison is the perfect place for an intimate dinner for two, or the special or once-in-a-lifetime occasion. Every experience is enhanced by the beauty and ambience of the established, breathtaking, nearly century-old landscapes that surround the venue."

Originally built in 1843 as a barn, the restaurant acquired the name Malmaison in 1992 from Simone, of the husband and wife chef team of Simone and Gilbert Andujar. To Simone, the grounds were reminiscent of a fine French estate in the South of France. Now, The Gardens at Malmaison continues the tradition of fine dining in a historic, countryside setting.

Lingering after dinner at the unique dining destination is a must, and the Friday night guests could not have been more pleased. "I love the historic feel of the setting," says Renée. "My wedding was here for 110 guests, and the gardens provided all of the color and ambience."

And according to Datra, the sentiment is a mutual one. "We are thrilled to host beautiful weddings and find that we often become part of the families of our hosts and hostesses. Guests that have had private parties at The Gardens at Malmaison often plan their future anniversary celebrations, baby showers and other special occasions with us year after year," she says. •

Opposite page: Guests began the evening with a traditional Malmaison Chef's Flight platter. **Below:** Renée, Melinda and Mary Ann enjoy cocktails and appetizers in the bar at Malmaison – a charming, historic setting for gathering; Nestled on a hillside overlooking the Missouri River and the St. Albans Valley, the spectacular restaurant and gardens are the perfect place for outdoor dining and lingering into the evening; Guests enjoyed Malmaison's signature drinks, "Oscar J" and "Studio Sunset"; Floral arrangement from Hillermann Nursery & Florist. **Far right:** (top to bottom) Malmaison Salad; St. Albans Almond Cookie Basket; and Premier Fresh Catch – fillet of halibut in a lemon-butter sauce. *See page 74 for resources.*















THE GARDENS AT MALMAISON MENU

- Chef's Cheese Flight – A traditional Malmaison platter of the chef's assorted cheeses, dried fruit, seasonal berries and lavosh
- Malmaison Salad – Baby greens, radish, tomatoes, hearts of palm, red onion, and Asiago cheese in balsamic vinaigrette
- Premier Fresh Catch – Fillet of Halibut in a lemon-butter sauce with an herb risotto with haricots verts (petite green beans)
- St. Albans Almond Cookie Basket – Signature dish filled with French vanilla ice cream, seasonal berries and chocolate and caramel sauce

Join SLHL at Cooking School. See page 72 for details.



Nicholas Hanify, Director of Catering

Elegant Home Furnishings

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The clean lines of the Folio Desk, with it's bronze base and coconut shell top combine to make it the perfect working accent for almost any space. From Baker Furniture avalible through Frank Patton Interiors.





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www.daufurniture.com
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Introducing the Poppy Table. Patterned after the early Gustav Stickley design, the structure of this reissued masterpiece has been enhanced with significant construction improvements to strengthen it without detracting from its delicacy. The gentle, free form relief lines on the floral petals are hand carved. Available at Dau Home Furnishings through December 2009.

Expressions Furniture ↓

7817 Clayton Road, Saint Louis, MO 63117
314.567.6200

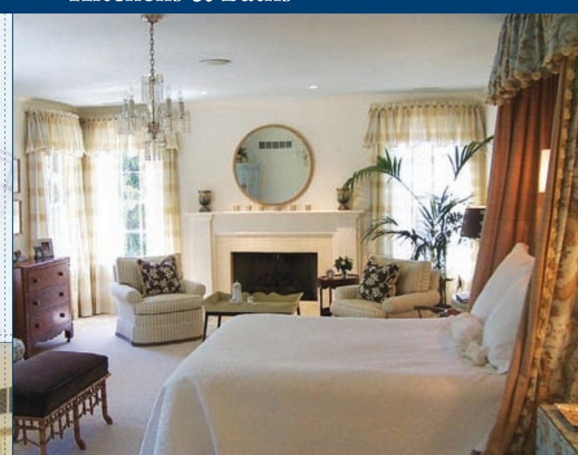
Expressions Furniture features a new twist on the table/ottoman! This one-of-a-kind piece features a stunning wood base with a functional top that offers room for several "seats" or pairs of feet along with two wood serving trays. Available square, rectangle, in fabric, or in leather means endless possibilities for any room!




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a breath of fresh air





Coastal-inspired condominium living sparkles in Grafton, Illinois.

BY VICKI PICKLE PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROB GRIMM

Captivated by the allure of waterfront living, Ben and Trudi Allen make their home at Windrivers Condominiums on a breathtaking Illinois property located "where the rivers meet." Located at the exact confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers and situated on the National Scenic Byway, the development is a must-see community on the way to Grafton along the scenic Great River Road that leads to the quaint, historic town.

The Allens' condominium is one of the eye-catching homes in a fabulous development that invites a second look with the peaceful, soothing allure of the water – an enticing feature that the family loves, with their Sea Ray Cruiser docked nearby.

The charming home welcomes family and friends with window-filled, open spaces that lead to splendid views of the water and nature's overflowing beauty.

Trudi's flair for and love of interior design is immediately apparent in the art-





Opening pages: A blend of carefree indoor and outdoor living is one of the attractions of condominium living at Windrivers. Developed by Windrivers, LLC, in conjunction with architect Donna Boxx, the waterfront homes were designed with easy-care, relaxed living in mind. They are pristine examples of homes in sync with their natural surroundings. **Left:** Trudi created a collector's dream niche, and she uses the space for heirloom and sentimental keepsakes. **Above:** An eclectic entryway welcomes friends and family. **Below:** A cozy dining room space – with a table that opens for extra seating – meshes with the great room for an ideal entertaining spot.





Left: The serene master bedroom – with its soft, sea-like palette – is part of a relaxed art-adorned suite. The couple enjoys art and fills their home with favorite pieces. The space leads to the terrace, an ideal place to lounge, with fabulous water views and ever-changing scenery. **Below:** A cottage-chic style breakfast nook punctuates the airy galley kitchen space and has a resort-like feel. It is the perfect place for Ben and Trudi to enjoy morning coffee before heading outdoors.

filled entryway that exudes eclectic charm, anchored with a touch of the tropics.

Intimate seating areas in the great room, adjacent sitting room and breakfast nook are flooded with a fresh, sea-touched palette, and shades of aqua blue prevail. The home's light, airy rooms create the perfect sense of calm and balance for the Allens' busy lives.

When they're home, the comfortable, "kick your shoes off and stay a while" appeal blends their casually polished and stylishly designed indoor and outdoor living spaces seamlessly. Theirs is a harmonious, family-centered home and lifestyle – where you're likely to find grandchildren cuddling up for a story on a comfy sofa, running barefoot

"Our surroundings are very restful and calming, and the scenery changes daily."
– Trudi, homeowner

outdoors with the family dog, Maddy, or waiting for a ride in the boat with Grandpa.

The couple happily admits that the family fell in love with the location and all subsequently moved to Grafton. They've developed a strong connection to the Illinois community – just a short distance from St. Louis – and a passion for the town's revitalization. The family volunteers their time within the close-knit community; Betsy was an alderwoman, and Ben is currently serving as City Attorney.



"We lassoed our kids, and they've taken over management and ownership of our family businesses," says Ben with a smile.

Their children, Peter and Gina Allen and John and Betsy Puent, help manage other Allen projects – the popular Loading Dock Restaurant, two guest houses, and a monthly flea market. Their future plans include development of a small boutique inn and spa at the confluence of the rivers. And, a small marina will complement the Windrivers Condominiums and Inn.

From the home's spacious terrace, the views of the palisade bluffs, rivers and small nearby islands evoke a relaxed, open-air lifestyle that beckons visitors to the area, including feathered friends. "It's like watching a movie with ever-changing scenery, with the riverboats, cruisers, ski boats, glide planes and all types of wildlife – eagles, herons, pelicans and gulls – gracing the backdrop," says Trudi.

"From the middle of November until the middle of March, the eagles land in the trees from about 7 a.m. until sundown, and then the pelicans come from March through May. It's wonderful." •



From the spacious terrace, the views of the palisade bluffs, rivers and small nearby islands evoke a relaxed lifestyle.

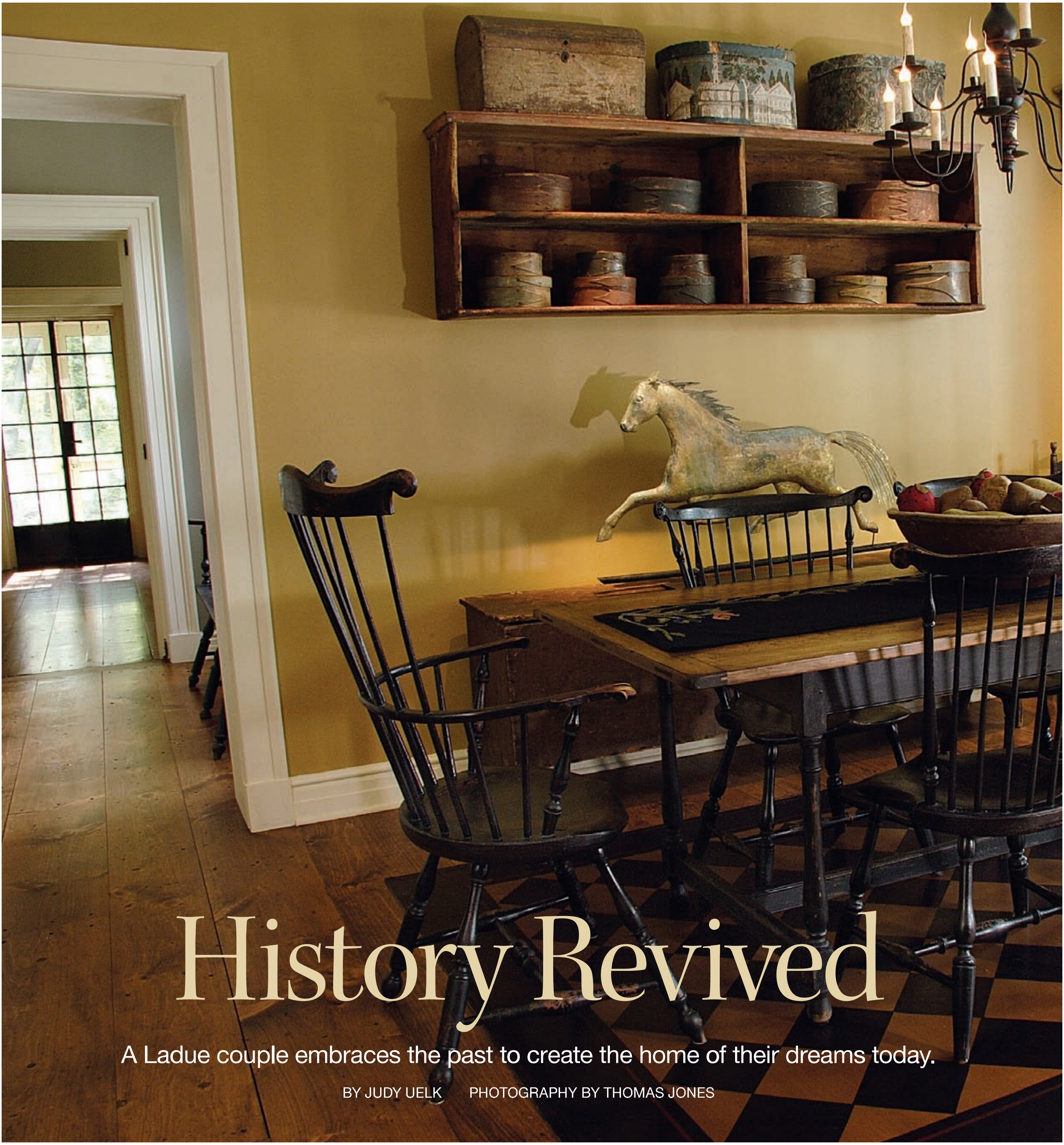








Left: A spacious terrace characterizes outdoor living at its finest in the premiere condominium community. The location is a private space yet close to all the amenities and waterside activities that the development avails. According to Ben, "A lot of folks come back to the area to be close to the kids and grandkids." **Above (top to bottom):** Views of magnificent limestone bluffs, sunrises and sunsets prevail. Granddaughters, Lily and Claire, enjoy their time outdoors with the family dog, Maddy. "Grandpa" Ben brings the boat around to give the girls a boat ride on the river. *See page 74 for design resources.*



History Revived

A Ladue couple embraces the past to create the home of their dreams today.

BY JUDY UELK PHOTOGRAPHY BY THOMAS JONES





Walking through the gracious front door of the whitewashed storybook brick home is like immersing yourself in the pages of a gripping love story. You are immediately swept away to another time and place. A place rich in heritage. A place where the fullness and spirit of the past grab you and make you never want to leave. A place brimming with love, warmth and passion for a simpler time. For its owners, this home is all about embracing history and celebrating its significance in their lives today.

The Ladue couple, who share this special space with their 6-year-old son and two canine companions, are antique aficionados extraordinaire. They have filled their home with antique furnishings and objets d'art that make the Early American experience truly come alive.

A prime example of a home decorated in the Colonial and Federal Revival style of the late 1700s and early 1800s, the homeowners strove to make every inch of their residence ring true to this important period of American history. "This home, which was built in the 1920s, is fairly simple," say the homeowners. "It could easily accommodate a variety of decorating styles. The antiques are really what establish the period feel. With the renovations, we just wanted to give them a suitable

Left: A hand-painted floor cloth anchors a large Hepplewhite stretcher base table. While this floor cloth is painted on a heavy laminated canvas, those of the period were usually painted directly onto the floor. **Above:** The home's original curly maple treads on the main foyer's stately reverse staircase create a stunning entry. Reclaimed red oak on the second-level landing was stained an antique brown to match the existing floors.

"We have always loved this particular style. In fact, our previous home was a more authentic representation of the Early American period."
– homeowners

background, one that would let the antique furnishings, rather than the architecture alone, create the period style that we enjoy."

"We have always loved this particular style," say the homeowners. "In fact, our previous home was a more authentic representation of the Early American period. With this home, however, we took what we had done before and added a bit more elegance and polish to suit the size, scale and architecture of the house, while making it function with all the conveniences of any other modern home today."

Working closely with architect Lauren Strutman, the homeowners expanded the kitchen and added a hearth room to increase and enhance livability. Next, they turned to renowned craftsman, David T. Smith of Ohio, to transform this new space into something "old."

"David is a master at what he does," say the homeowners. "Not only is he absolutely the best craftsman out there when it comes to the quality of his furniture and kitchen cabinetry, especially his surfaces, but he is an excellent space planner and designer to boot. David certainly deserves his well-earned reputation in craft circles."

Consulting with David, not only at his workshops in Ohio, but also through the use of sophisticated three-dimensional colorized drawings via the Internet, David indeed worked magic in this space. The kitchen is state-of-the-art, yet the "newness" is completely concealed behind gorgeous painted cabinetry made of poplar, with a "Paint History Finish" that replicates wood that has been painted over and over again throughout the years, but never stripped. There are also cabinets made of curly maple and cherry that are stained









and finished with a "TimeWorn" clear finish. "Antiques with original paint are extremely valuable and much desired by antique lovers," says David. Flag rattail hinges, forged by the blacksmiths at The Workshops of David T. Smith, and reminiscent of those used on cabinetry by the Pennsylvania Germans in the 18th century, adorn the cabinets, too.

David also constructed a brand-new wall cupboard to flank the farmhouse sink. "David's artistry is amazing," reflect the homeowners. "The cupboard looks like a unique antique piece that we found at an antique shop on one of our trips to New England. It blends so well with the rest of the kitchen, but doesn't match exactly. It's the perfect complement!"



Opposite page left: A new tiger maple hanging wall cupboard designed and constructed by David T. Smith and finished with his soft "TimeWorn" surface blends with the rest of the kitchen, yet adds some variety as it replicates a found antique piece. **Opposite page right:** The apothecary cabinet is the main feature of the pantry/small office area off the kitchen. The homeowners found this late 18th-century general store fixture while traveling in Maine. **Above:** Heavily aged, black painted poplar cupboards and island, in addition to cherry cabinetry, create a beautifully blended look. Soapstone counters and an island topped with tiger maple accent the kitchen perfectly. **Middle:** Modern conveniences are discretely hidden yet easily accessible. **Right:** A farmhouse sink beckons to yesteryear.





Flowing from the kitchen, the hearth room is a cozy, warm spot to gather and relax with family and friends. Architect Lauren Strutman brought extensive expertise in the field of authentic period architecture to the project and was instrumental in the home's hearth room addition. She worked in conjunction with David, who designed, built and then applied his best "Museum Painted Finish" to the fireplace "room end" wall that cleverly conceals the large media cupboard spaces behind it.

That careful consideration continues to the beautiful historic floors that set the tone and lay the foundation for the entire look. Steve Lauer of the Historic Floor Company in Chesterfield developed floors that are not only historically accurate but stunning as well. "The floors in this home are very New England," says Steve. "We used a 14-inch, 16-inch and up to 18-inch random wide-plank floor from our SugarPine™ collection, exclusive to the Historic Floor Company, with real Portsmouth black wrought forged antique square nails on top." These floors are the exact color of the floors in the famous Drayton Hall House, the

"The antiques are really what establish the period feel."
– homeowner

only plantation on the Ashley River in South Carolina that survives today. The edges of the planks were blackened and glazed by hand to resemble aging and simulate the look of antique "pumpkin" pine from the New Hampshire region. "The end result was a floor that took on the natural amber and patina of a very old, antique floor," says Steve.

And the homeowners couldn't be happier. "The wide-plank SugarPine™ floors are perfect," they say. "Steve Lauer and his crew are total professionals, and the only source we could find in this part of the Midwest who understood what we were trying to achieve. Their 'Antique Matte' polyurethane finish provides the durability and easy maintenance that a modern family requires, while still having that soft, low-luster look of a 200-year-old pine floor." It is the kind of attention to detail that has transformed this home into a work of art that pays tribute to the fine craftsmanship of our forefathers, applauds the artistry of today's masters, and exemplifies the love that can exist between a home and its family. •

Top left: The dining room takes on a slightly more formal air and showcases the homeowners' extensive pewter collection. **Bottom left:** Antique portraits from the 18th century reside above a beautiful black distressed hunt board. **Opposite page top:** The large hearth room brick fireplace, firebox and floor flush hearth are typical to the era. **Opposite page bottom (left & right):** The gracious, whitewashed brick home transformed into a modern-day reflection of our nation's past. The nearly century-old English estate-style residence meets its period nature while integrating modern features. *See page 74 for design resources.*







Suburban Garden of the Year

Drifts of color

BY LUCYANN BOSTON PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG RANNELLS



SLHL's winning English cottage-style garden was a true labor of love for intercontinental










gardeners with kindred spirits – St. Louisan Ann Roberts and British flower expert Joy Brittle.








"The story will always be more beautiful than the garden."

– Ann Roberts, gardener

When you stroll through Ann and Steve Roberts' Town & Country garden, it's hard to believe that the tale of the garden's fortuitous evolution could be more glorious than the landscape itself.

A rainbow of floral color circles the perimeter of the setting. The kaleidoscope begins with pink and purple blossoms that merge into deep burgundy flowers and foliage and then on to waves of red, orange and gold. Lush greens provide a backdrop for a wooden bench that beckons from a shady part of the landscape. A refreshing combination of blue and white flowers sparkles against the terra cotta tones of the brick home. In the center of the garden, fragrant beds of lavender bloom at the base of a huge black urn spilling over with purple heliotrope, lavender lantana and variegated ivy. Water splashes from a tiered fountain, surrounded by multi-colored shrub roses.

The story of the garden's evolution begins four years ago with a somewhat discouraged Ann, who, with two children off in college, had more time to devote to her landscape.

"I wanted constant color in my garden from May through November, and I was tired of messing with annuals," Ann recalls. "I really wanted to try perennials. I'd buy something because it had a pretty flower and plant it, but it never looked right (in the landscape)."

In her quest to learn more about design, Ann navigated the Internet and found her way to the GardenWeb Forums Web site (www.forums.gardenweb.com/forums/) where gardeners can chat and ask questions. "I looked at all the categories and read what people said," Ann explains. "I decided what I wanted was an informal, country-style, cottage garden. I wanted to emulate that free look. It took months before I got up the courage to post a picture and ask a question."





Opening pages: Joy presented Ann with six different signature David Austin roses (pictured: 'Charlotte') that set the tone for each drift of color in the garden. A huge wrought iron urn forms a centerpiece in the garden. Ann created the look upon Joy's advice. "If you are going to do a focal point, hit 'em in the eye with mass and size," she said. **Above:** *Iris insanta* 'Variegata' and *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' add lovely texture to the Jewel Box bed. A circular "moon sculpture"– a gift to Ann from Joy – acts as a window to the beauty of the English, cottage-style garden. **Left:** Upon Joy's recommendation, the garden bench is set on an angle to beckon visitors to the English Garden bed.



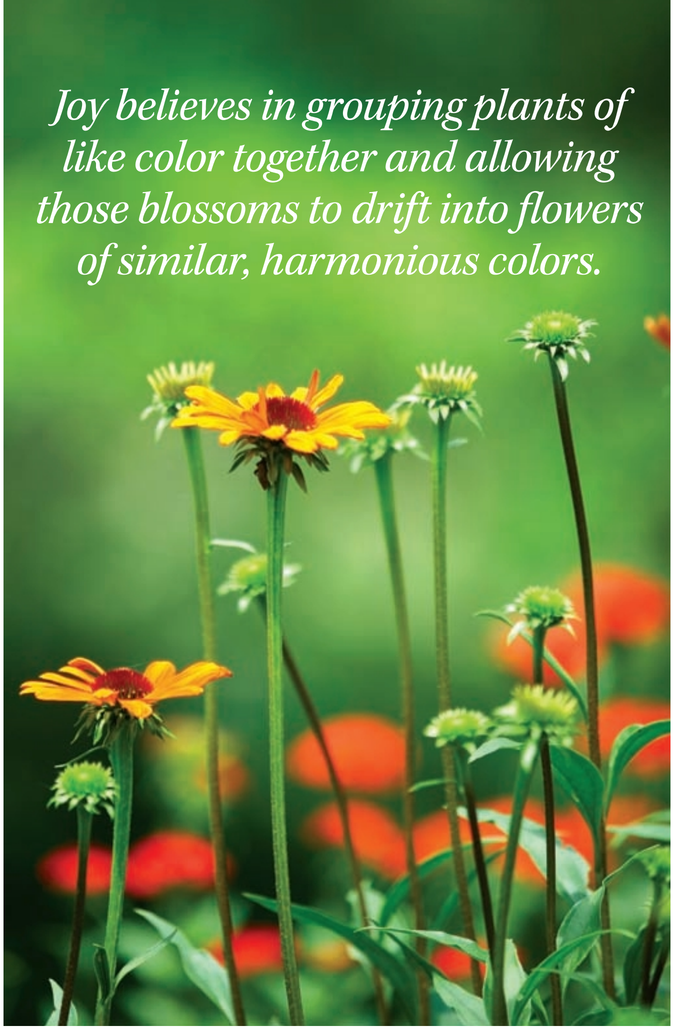


Amazingly, a response to Ann's query came from Joy Brittle, a British flower arranging expert. Joy was tending her own cottage garden, which surrounds a centuries-old home in the British Midlands – a home she had inherited from her mother. Before long, Ann and Joy were e-mailing regularly. "Joy had so much knowledge of flowers and texture," Ann recalls. "She can pronounce the Latin names of plants with 17 syllables as easily as I can say my name."

Joy also introduced Ann to the philosophy of celebrated English garden designer

Above (left to right): Purple lantana; white alyssum; and a bee finds a landing spot on fragrant heliotrope. **Below:** Ann shopped at Sugar Creek Gardens for many of the specific plants she needed to achieve her garden plan. Drifts of color are delineated by the paved stone walkway. A copper trellis was created by Ann and her son, Ben, to provide substantial structure and a focal point to the garden.





Gertrude Jekyll (1843-1932), famous for her perennial borders and her painterly, impressionistic style of planting, utilizing both color and texture. Her belief in grouping plants of like color together and allowing those blossoms to drift into flowers of similar, harmonious colors immediately appealed to Ann. But selecting the appropriate plants to create a kind of living color wheel in her own backyard was a daunting task. "In January 2005 I asked Joy if she would help me design my garden," Ann recounts.

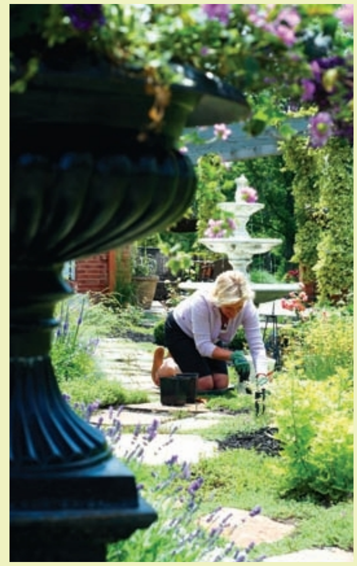
Joy agreed. In the midst of winter, Ann began taking pictures of her empty garden beds and sending them to Joy. "I drew the outline of my beds in a computer program called 'Picture It' and sent the CD of the program to Joy so she could download it on her computer, and we could begin sending images back and forth," Ann explains. "When we first started looking at the individual beds, we needed a way to identify them. We began calling them names like 'the birdbath bed' and 'the spruce bed.' Then, as the garden took shape and we knew the color of the flowers in each area, we began referring to the areas by jewel names, such as sapphire, ruby and topaz. Joy had the eye (for garden design) that I didn't have."

The learning curve wasn't all one-sided. "Joy had no sense

Left: Echinacea 'Tiki Torch' and reddish tassel flower dot the Cardinal Bed with pops of vibrant color. **Below:** The Roberts' patio looks out to a nearby lake. Lush vines outline the fabulous outdoor space – a beautiful complement to the garden. Black-and-white themed hanging baskets showcase 'Blackie' sweet potato vine, white lantana, ornamental black peppers, Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost' and cordyline spikes. **Opposite page left:** A flowing, three-tiered fountain adds to the calm, soothing ambience of the peaceful garden setting. **Opposite page bottom right:** One of the computer landscape designs that Ann and Joy created.







SEEDS OF WISDOM:

Ann Roberts and Joy Brittle remain in constant contact. In their years of working together, Joy has passed along to Ann a legacy that includes seeds from plants in her English garden and a number of gardening tips that work as well in the United States as they do in England.

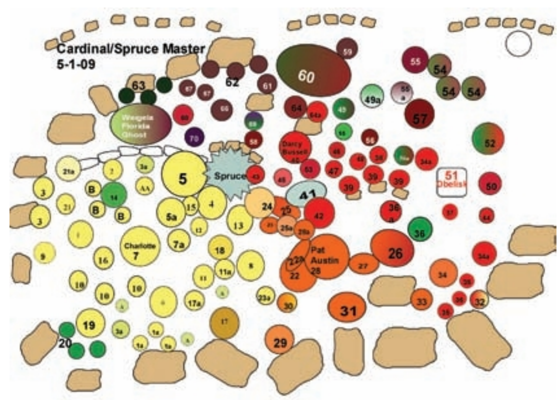
- Leave space around plants to emphasize the individual plants.
- Use silver and green foliage plants to fill in holes.
- Garden focal points should be big enough to "hit (a viewer) in the eye."
- Properly placed structural pieces are just as important in a garden as flowers.
- Use structural pieces to frame a part of the garden and guide the eye.
- Benches and seating areas should be angled so they invite garden visitors to sit down.

See page 74 for resources.

of our winters and our summers," Ann explains with a laugh. "Generally, any plant in a British nursery can be grown anywhere in England. She would suggest something, and I would have to say, 'Joy, I can't grow that plant.' England is basically in zone 8." (St. Louis is between climate zones 5 and 6.)

"I was so amazed at the amount of time she spent with me," Ann says, looking out over her garden. "Shortly after we began corresponding, Joy's best friend died. I think helping me design my garden filled a void in her life, and with that, Joy named the garden 'Serendipity.'"

Two years ago, Joy Brittle and her husband Ken, along with two other family members, traveled to the United States and spent five days with the Roberts family. "When we stepped out in the garden, it was surreal," Ann recalls. "We had worked for two years, and we were both silent. 'Does it look different to you?' I asked. 'I know this garden like the back of my hand,' Joy said." •



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2



3

september gardening calendar

EDITED BY HEIDI DEAN | Adapted from the Missouri Botanical Garden calendar at mobot.org

- **CONTINUE** planting evergreens now.
- **TAKE** cuttings of annuals now to provide vigorous plants for overwintering.
- **DIG** up herbs such as parsley, rosemary, chives and thyme and place in pots now for growing indoors this winter.
- **DIVIDE** peonies now. Replant in a sunny site and avoid planting deeply.
- **FERTILIZE** cool-season lawns. Make up to three applications between now and December. Do not exceed rates recommended by fertilizer manufacturer.
- **SOW** seeds of radish, lettuce, spinach and other greens in a cold frame to prolong fall harvests.
- **BEGIN** fall seeding or sodding of cool season grasses. Seedbeds should be raked, dethatched, fertilized and seeded. Keep newly planted lawn areas moist, not wet.
- **PINCH OUT** the top of Brussels sprout plants to plump out the developing sprouts.
- **HARVEST** herbs now to freeze or dry for winter use.
- **MONITOR** plants for spider mite activity. Reduce their numbers by hosing off with a forceful spray of water.
- **BEGIN** readying houseplants for winter indoors. Prune, check for pests and treat if necessary. Bring plants indoors at least one month before heat is turned on.
- **LIFT** gladiolus when leaves yellow. Cure in an airy place until dry before husking.
- **SOW** spinach now to overwinter under mulch for spring harvest.
- **PICK** pears before they are fully mature. Store in a cool, dark basement to ripen.
- **KEEP** broccoli picked to encourage added production of side shoots.
- **TIE** leaves around cauliflower heads when they are about the size of a golf ball.



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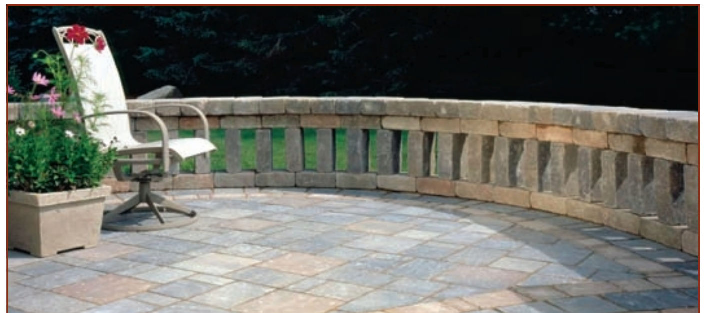
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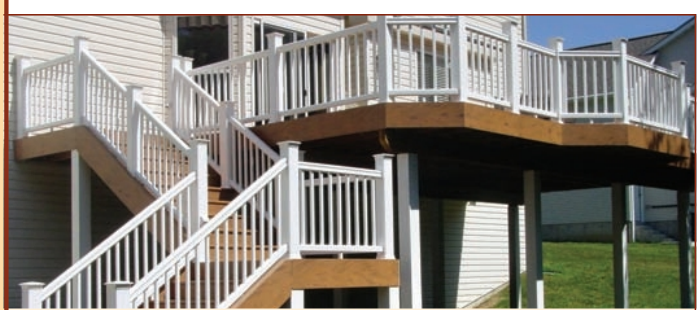
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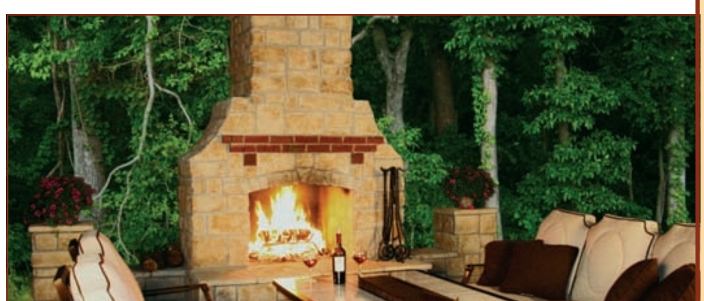
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EcoLogic

Naturally green

Rugs that Tread Lightly on the Earth

BY JUDY UELK

It's easy to be green when choosing a fabulous and eco-friendly rug for your home because rugs with natural fibers are by their very nature ecological. Rugs are the anchors that pull an entire space together and often are the very first pieces selected in the design process. Wall colors are chosen from striking threads that wind their way throughout a gorgeous rug, while fabrics and furnishings are selected to complement and enhance the entire look. Needless to say, finding a great rug can be the start of something wonderful.

Wool area rugs are one of the top choices when looking for a healthy option. Produced without the use of harsh chemicals, wool rugs are odor-free, fire-resistant, durable, strong and easily cleaned. "Beautiful rugs become heirlooms," says Marilyn Tenenbaum, of the family-owned Volume Carpet in Brentwood. "They get passed down from generation to generation. That in itself is the epitome of being recyclable." Marilyn is quick to point out that wool rugs can also save you money on your energy bill. "Their innate ecological properties help to keep a room warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer," she says.

Soumak rugs, the "original Persian rugs," have been around for centuries and are still very popular. These long-lasting, reversible flat-woven rugs exhibit detailed geometric patterns, often with tribal motifs. Available in soft wool and smooth, shiny silk, soumak rugs can be used beautifully in traditional, contemporary and modern décors.

Exquisite in design and always admired, needlepoint rugs create a stunning statement in any home. With the same renewable properties as wool, though not reversible, handcrafted needlepoint rugs are indeed "art for the floor."









1. Hand braided, vintage-inspired cotton rag rug. **2.** Updated, heirloom-inspired, hand-hooked cotton rug. **3.** Handmade, needlepoint wool rug. **4.** Handwoven, reversible, basket weave wool soumak rug; Photos courtesy of Volume Carpet.



Photo courtesy of Ageless Rugs Treasures

Hooked organic cotton rugs are a great option for today's décor. Soft underfoot and available in a wide variety of luxurious styles, sculpted patterns and vibrant colors, cotton rugs are constructed by hand to last for decades, are super easy to clean and are gentle on the environment. Some of the simplest cotton rugs include the rag and braided versions of yesteryear.

Jute, bamboo, hemp, sisal, sea grass and cork are other organic materials used to create beautiful rugs that hug your floors and the planet, too. Synthetic fibers, such as nylon, though traditionally not eco-friendly at all, are beginning to feel the eco-conscious trend, too. "There are processing plants that actually collect old synthetic rugs and make them new again by reusing the fibers instead of disposing of the rugs altogether," explains Marilyn. "Recycling, reusing and repurposing are all important aspects of being ecologically conscientious today."

Matthew Bay, president and owner of Ageless Rug Treasures in Webster Groves, agrees that "green" is the way to go. "Nothing could be more green than a hand-woven rug," he says. Composed of wool, silk or a combination of the two, both are natural fibers and thus biodegradable. In some rugs, even the dyestuffs used are natural (madder root producing red, indigo producing blue, saffron producing yellow, etc.)

"Rugs are one of the oldest forms of art," says Marilyn. "Rugs made from natural materials didn't have to change over the years. They've never been offensive to the environment." *See page 74 for resources.*

"Sink your toes into something green!"

– Judy, The Green Girl

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Ambassador Floor Company is state-of-the-art and the largest of its kind in the St. Louis Metro area. AFC home furnishings division offers furniture, designer vanities, accents, accessories and area rugs to complete the home. Ambassador is a unique, one-stop selection service.





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Marble's classic beauty is unmatched, and many homeowners use marble not only to increase the value of their home, but also to reflect a refined and cultured taste. Pictured (left to right): Carrara white honed mosaic marble from Italy, White Venatino slab from Italy; Calcuta Basket Weave; and Tribeca in Classic White Hexagon from Walker Zanger. See these great looks and many more at Midwest Tile & Granite's beautiful new showroom coming to Chesterfield Valley in September of 2009.



Midwest Tile, Marble and Granite, Inc.

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With the knowledge and experience of three generations, Midwest Tile, Marble and Granite, Inc. continues to be a leading Midwest supplier for granite, marble, slate and limestone slabs; exclusive lines such as Sant' Agostino, Saime and Fiordo and Paloma Pewter Tiles; and an array of porcelain, glass and metal tiles.

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2009 SAINT LOUIS DREAM KITCHEN TOUR

Tour a variety of exquisite, stylish and innovative kitchens in the exclusive St. Louis County areas of Ladue, Frontenac, Creve Coeur and Town & Country. The seven featured homes will showcase the latest in kitchen design and accessories.

Tickets are $25 each, and proceeds benefit the world-class Hadassah Medical Organization and other charitable works of Hadassah.

Tickets will be sold from 9:30 a.m. until noon on the day of the tour at the following locations:

Williams-Sonoma Home
Plaza Frontenac,
In the east parking lot
1745 S. Lindbergh, 63131

Starbucks
Mason Woods Village Centre
Corner of Mason and Clayton
13448 Clayton Rd., 63131

Einstein Bros. Bagels
West Oak Shopping Center
Corner of Craig and Olive
11423 Olive Blvd., 63141

All About Hadassah

Founded in 1912, Hadassah, is the largest women's membership organization in the United States. Hadassah supports pace-setting medical care and research, health education, advocacy, volunteerism, youth, children at risk and environmental issues throughout the world. Hadassah Hospital was a 2005 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee.

St. Louis Chapter Hadassah is 1,700 members strong and celebrating 91 years in 2009. Members are deeply involved and committed to their communities, and through programs, activities and events are motivated, inspired and encouraged to realize their potential to benefit all of American society.

Hadassah has a four-star rating by Charity Navigator. Visit us at www.hadassah.org.

2009 Kitchen Tour committee

Kitchen Tour Chairman: Leslie Freeman
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Recipe Cards: Linda Spitzer Gavatin, Cathy Einhorn
Kitchen Tour Celebration Chairmen: Lori King, Susan Bosse,
President, **St. Louis Chapter Hadassah**: Judy Kramer
Administrative Assistant: Nancy McNiff

It's a Fact

Throughout this section, you'll find facts about Hadassah – activities, goals and philanthropy.

HADASSAH FACT

Hadassah helps develop public health programs in developing nations by committing health care professionals and supplies and by teaching the natives to establish and manage their own health care clinics.

HADASSAH FACT

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE The Hadassah Medical Organization, which has achieved international acclaim for promoting peace in the Middle East region by providing equal treatment to people of all religions and nationalities, was nominated for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. The nomination cited three areas in which HMO excelled in promoting peace in the region: the ability to maintain the value of equal treatment for all people despite treating more terror victims than any other medical center; the model of cooperation and coexistence set by the mixed staff of people of all faiths; and the medical organization's ongoing initiatives in creating bridges for peace even throughout times of armed conflicts.





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HADASSAH FACT

HADASSAH IS MULTI-CULTURAL The Hadassah Medical Organization, which has achieved international acclaim for promoting Dr. Suheir Assady, made history when she was appointed as the new head of the Nephrology Dept. at Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa, Israel. One of only a few women to hold similar positions in the entire Middle East, Assady is the first Israeli Muslim woman to direct a large medical department in an Israeli hospital. Born in Nazareth, where she still lives, Assady completed her medical studies and internship at the Hebrew University and Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem. She attributes her success to "...the excellent training I received from some of the finest doctors in the field of nephrology in Israel who are world-renowned for their groundbreaking research in this area."


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1 No More Singin' The Blues

The old kitchen that once occupied this space was dark, low and very compartmentalized. There were bits of walls and soffits protruding from everywhere, seemingly void of logic. We removed unnecessary drywall and studs as best we could. The remaining few sections of wall created the desk and butler's pantry niches. Now, the life center of the home for this Kosher cook and her family is sensibly organized and gracefully artistic.



2 La Cucina Bonita

The owner of this incredible kitchen purchased his childhood home and renovated for large groups of friends to gather. The new breakfast room and exterior courtyard easily accommodate the overflow. The beautiful custom mantle and the painted and glazed cabinetry highlight the marble floors. The 48" Wolf oven and the Subzero appliances truly make this a gourmet kitchen. Utilizing cabinets from Beck/Allen Cabinetry, Sinn Design Build designed and built this masterpiece with respect to the integrity of the existing home's architecture and incorporating today's kitchen needs into the design.

HADASSAH FACT

HADASSAH & BIOSECURITY Experts at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem provided training and direction for professors from the Institute for Biosecurity at St. Louis University Department of Public Health, who traveled to Hadassah-Hebrew Medical Center to study the Israeli response to terrorism and to see how Israeli healthcare professionals respond to terror attacks. The resultant SLU center is part of a national network formed by the CDC to fight bioterrorism (biological weapons, chemical and biological agents) and emerging infections (tuberculosis, HIV, new viruses). It is one of only ten centers in the country and its main task is to prepare emergency response teams, physicians, nurses, health administrators and public health and community officials to respond effectively to health threats.






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3

Let The Sun Shine In

In the process of adding a second story to their ranch-style home, the homeowners created a round, open kitchen in the center of their home that serves as the perfect gathering space for a busy family. The circular kitchen was designed with white cabinets by Beneath the Bark that form a semi-circle along the kitchen's back wall, a white marble backsplash and countertops, and a beautiful hardwood floor. Other amenities include a Kohler steamer sink, a built-in stainless steel refrigerator, a pull-out cabinet for the microwave and built-in flat screen TV. In keeping with the light and airy feel of the white cabinets and the open floor plan, the kitchen's back wall is constructed of windows that overlook the patio and pool. In addition, the pool house with a full kitchen will be featured on the tour.





4

Check It Out

The level of detail paid to functionality and convenience make this gorgeous kitchen a dream come true. By cleverly incorporating gadgetry and custom details, working in this kitchen is efficient and pleasurable. Counters and appliances are located at an optimal height for the main cook, and all of the custom-designed kitchen drawers and cabinets make the most of available storage space. Electronic controls make lighting, window coverings, electronics and HVAC equally easy to use.

HADASSAH FACT

HADASSAH & EMERGENCY RESPONDERS Following September 11, 2001, Ms. Vered Kater, RN, MSN, CNS, educated and employed at Hadassah Hospital, visited St. Louis University School of Nursing for ten days to give numerous presentations to students and to record a presentation for the Disaster Preparedness Certification Program and currently teaches over 50 students online in 16 states and two countries. Ms. Kater continues to strengthen the academic ties between the two institutions through travel and study and has been named an Assistant Clinical Professor of Nursing at St. Louis University.

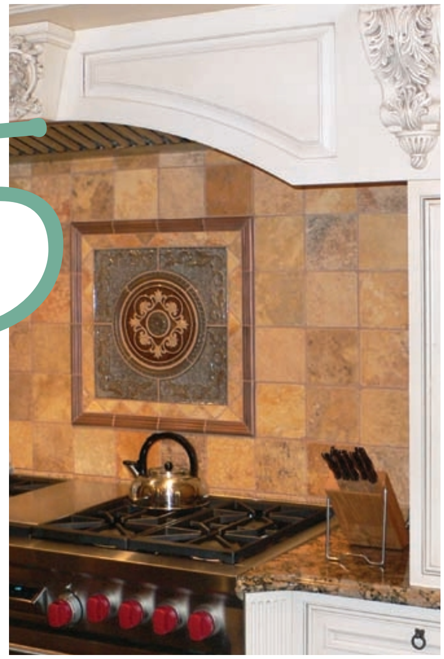

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5 The Grand Design



This lovely kitchen is designed in the grandest style. The beautiful windows, ornate carvings and decorative moldings, and the furniture-like appearance of the cabinetry make this a space in which anyone would enjoy preparing a meal. And, the preparation spaces are equally grand. The large six-burner cooking station with griddle, pot filler and hidden spice drawers, as well as the large farm-style sink, double refrigerators and dishwashing drawers offer tremendous ease in creating wonderful meals.



6 Mixing It Up

The blending of earth tones and stainless steel make this kitchen/hearth room combination a soothing and elegant space. The materials are a gorgeous array of different variations on the same color, from the spotted granite counters and backsplashes to the natural maple cabinets designed by Beck/Allen Cabinetry, the features of which are repeated in the circular breakfast bar and side servers. Multiple decorative display cabinets, both open and glass-enclosed, allow the homeowners to have a wonderful space to highlight their colorful accent pieces and collections.

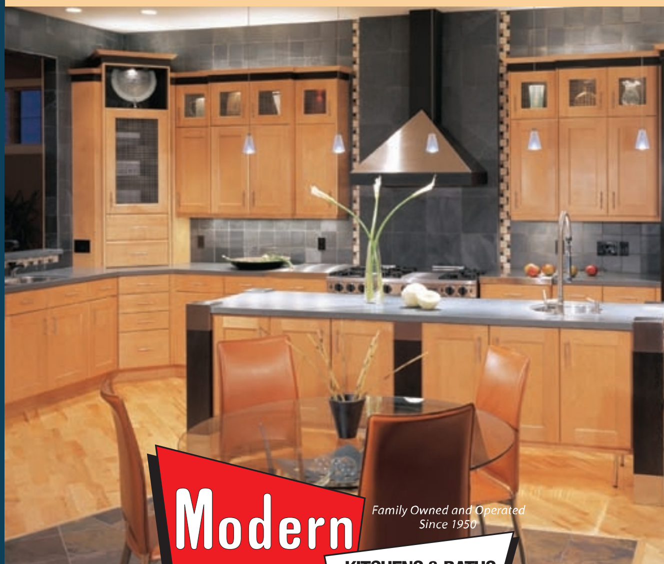


7 New Heights

The true beauty of this recent kitchen addition/remodel is its eclectic mix of old and new. From soaring new, sculpted ceilings to restyled and reused cabinetry from the previous kitchen, to a restored auger used to support the multi-level island, there is nothing typical in this light-filled new space. The amazing mix of unusual materials and textures please and delight the eye with each new discovery in this well-designed and functional kitchen.

HADASSAH FACT

HADASSAH & AFRICA In a clinic in the hills of Swaziland's capital, Israeli doctors have been training their counterparts to perform male circumcisions. They hope their expertise in the ancient technique will help in the battle against AIDS. Operation Abraham, directed by Dr. Eitan Gross, a pediatric surgeon at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem, is sponsored by the Jerusalem AIDS project and the Hadassah Medical Center. Dr. David Mankuta, a obstetrician-gynecologist at Hadassah Ein Kerem, responded to a humanitarian request to care for rape victims in the East Congo. He was the only ob-gyn for ten million people. Many of the women he saw were damaged as a result of brutal treatment. He gave physical and psychological care to the patients and taught local medical students how to continue his work.



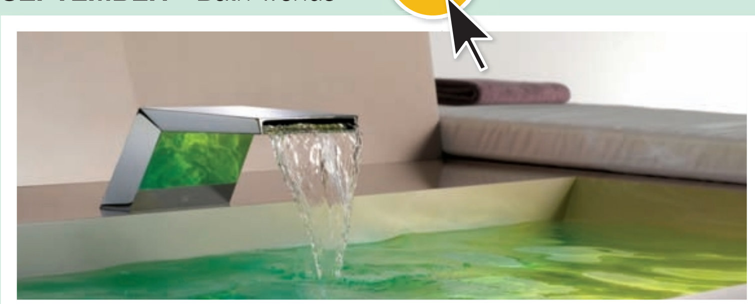


PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALISE O'BRIEN

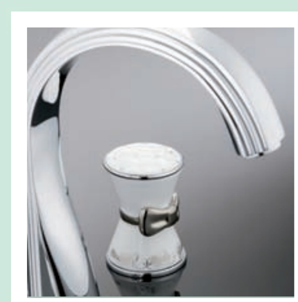




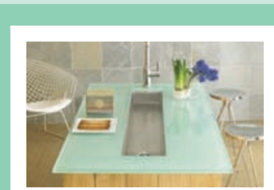












Natural Retreat GRAYHAWK

The properties at Grayhawk blend Missouri's most beautiful, nature-filled surroundings with an adventurous outdoor appeal.

BY KATIE UNDERHILL

location: 12651 Hill Road, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670



pristine paradise

Less than an hour drive from St. Louis, spacious wooded lots of 3 to 8 acres surround two 100-acre lakes, making Grayhawk an ideal destination for nature-lovers seeking relaxation, recreation, or a combination of the two.

vibrant village

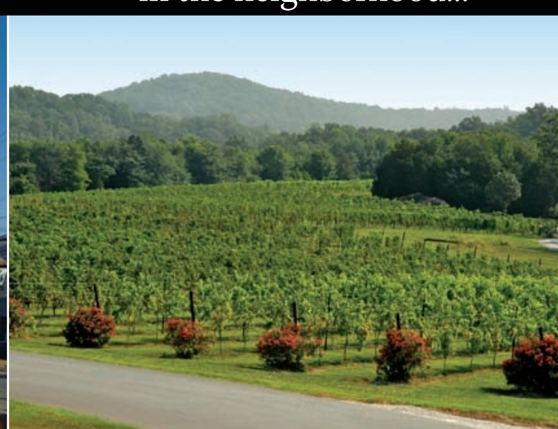
The historic town of Ste. Genevieve – just minutes away from tranquil Grayhawk – is home to quaint restaurants and specialty shops in a charming, history-rich setting.

"Grayhawk is an outstanding investment and the perfect weekend getaway for both families and empty nesters."

– Diane Davis, Grayhawk Sales Representative

in the neighborhood...







local landmark

Built in 1780, **Old Brick House** features an enticing eatery in an authentic piece of Ste. Genevieve history.

wine and dine

A boutique winery along Ste. Genevieve's famous Route du Vin, **Chaumette Vineyards and Winery** is the perfect place to enjoy food and wine in a picturesque locale.

town traditions

Historic Ste. Genevieve celebrates its French influence by hosting annual events such as the **Jour de Fête** and French Heritage Festival.

 See page 74 for resources.

Build New Suburban

Cottage Chic

SINN DESIGN BUILD



The Cottages of Ladue at Dwyer Place embody cozy style in a luxury locale.

BY KATIE UNDERHILL

intersection: Dwyer Place and Clayton Road



cottage in the city

Nestled in the heart of Ladue, the Cottages are a short stroll away from neighborhood shopping and dining hot spots.

little luxury

The custom-designed cottages range from 3,000 to 5,000 square feet and feature space-efficient, open floor plans and stunning hardwood floors on the main level.

"The Cottages of Ladue take the concept of a custom home and fit it into a smaller frame – it's a more manageable space in a great area."

– Tricia Sinn, president of Sinn Design Build

in the neighborhood...







dress to impress

Fashion-forward style abounds at **The Little Black Dress**, a ladies' boutique specializing in delightful dresses, handbags and jewelry.

shop in style

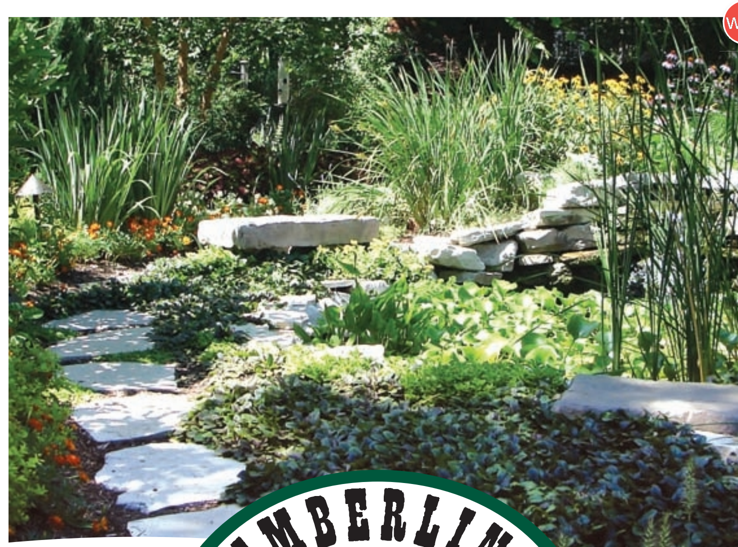
Full of charming paper products and giftable goodies, **The Service Bureau** offers shopping you can feel good about – a portion of the profits go to local charities.

sporty spot

With a casual atmosphere and memorabilia-filled walls, **Sportsman's Park** is both a sports-lover's paradise and a St. Louis landmark.

 See page 74 for resources.

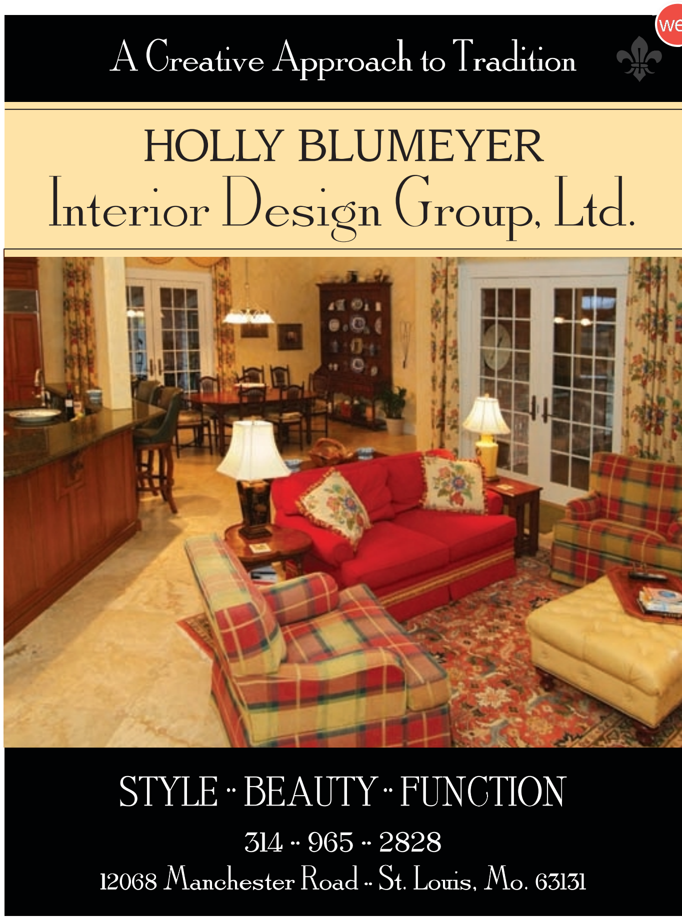







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From our magazine to your home... Featured products from urban and suburban stores.

SPOTLIGHT SPACE (pages 16-17)
Dromcastle Homes – David Kreutz, Matt Walter and Bruce Glass, 314-397-4078.

ART Q & A (page 20)
Stephanie Stokes, Gallery Director, Kodner Gallery, 9650 Clayton Road, 314-993-4477, www.kodnergallery.com.

TOSS A PARTY (pages 24-25)
The Gardens at Malmaison, 3519 Saint Albans Road, 636-458-0131 (call for a reservation), www.gardensmalmaison.com ■ Floral arrangement – Hillermann Nursery & Florist, 636-239-6729, www.hillermann.com.

ILLINOIS FEATURE (pages 30-35)
Builder – Krueger-Puent Construction ■ Windrivers Condominiums, Grafton, IL, 618-786-6666 ■ Developer - Windrivers LLC, Ben Allen, www.WindRiversCondominiums.com ■ Architect – Donna Boxx, Donna F. Boxx, Architect, P.C., www.boxxarchitect.com ■ Dining room table, chairs and credenza and select accessories – CPC Interiors, Carol Powers, Alton, IL, 618-466-6505 ■ Floral arrangements on coffee table and side chest of drawers – Dick's Flowers, Inc., Beth McDaniel, Alton, IL, www.dicksflowers.com ■ Decorative mirror and select furnishings – Williams-Sonoma Home, www.wshome.com ■ Couch and upholstered ottomans – Expressions ■ Four white chairs – Crate & Barrel, www.crateandbarrel.com.

SUBURBAN FEATURE (pgs 36-41)
All flooring – Historic Floor Company, 636-536-4500, 16630 Chesterfield Airport Rd., www.historicfloorco.com ■ Architect – Lauren Strutman, president, Lauren Strutman Architects, P.C., 636-537-0880, www.laurenstrutmanarchitects.com ■ All custom cabinetry – The Workshops of David T. Smith, 888-353-9387, www.davidtsmith.com ■ The Tin Rabbit, 573-486-5307, www.thetinrabbit.com ■ Complete Remodeling, Ltd., 314-822-5171.

SUBURBAN WINNING GARDEN OF THE YEAR (pages 42-47)
Sugar Creek Gardens, 314-965-3070, www.sugarcreekgardens.com ■ Garden Oasis, 314-498-0877.

ECOLOGIC (page 52)
Volume Carpets, 8994 Manchester Rd., 314-963-7847 ■ Ageless Rug Treasures, 14 N. Gore, 314-918-9256, www.agelessrugs.com.

REAL STEAL (page 68)
Grayhawk, 12651 Hill Rd., Ste. Genevieve, 314-488-7645, www.grayhawkmo.com ■ Chaumette Vineyards and Winery, 24345 State Route WW, Ste. Genevieve, www.chaumett.0e.com ■ Old Brick House, 90 S. 3rd St., Ste. Genevieve, 573-883-2724, www.theoldbrickhouse.com.

BUILD NEW SUBURBAN (page 70)
The Cottages of Ladue at Dwyer Place by Sinn Design Build, 9909 Clayton Rd. Suite LL8, 314-567-7649, www.sinndesignbuild.com ■ The Service Bureau, 9773 Clayton Rd., 314-991-1104 ■ The Little Black Dress, 9793 Clayton Rd., 314-993-6060, www.lbdladue.com ■ Sportsman's Park, 9901 Clayton Rd., 314-991-3381.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT (pg 88)
Home remodeling – Robben Contracting, Inc., Bob Robben, 314-849-6274, www.robbencontracting.com ■ Original installation of backyard plant beds, bluestone back patio - Horstmann Brothers, Inc. www.hbigarden.com ■ Landscaper – Blooming Decorator, Garden consultation, design and installation, Annette Smith, 314-821-7431 ■ Blue flagstone walkway, brick columns and wall, Pennsylvania bluestone walkway, hardscape – Fiddlecreek Construction, LLC – www.fiddlecreekconstruction.com ■ Front door floral arrangement – Eileen O'Neal, 314 644-8352 ■ Monogrammed front porch pillows – Embroider the Occasion, 124 W. Lockwood, www.embroidertheoccasion.com.

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LAKE LIVING

A SPECIAL SECTION

Your Guide to Boating, Living & Entertainment at the Lake of the Ozarks



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fast Summer

It may nearly be time to pack away suits and sandals for warmer sweaters and jeans, but not just yet. The best sporting event of the season – The Offshore Super Series National Championship – is about to take place on the water, and you'll want to be there for the pulse-racing fun. If you prefer a slower pace, check out some of the Lake area's wineries or relax at home with top-of-the-line technology.

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Racers start their engines – and rev up huge crowds – at the Lake's biggest racing event of the year.

The Offshore Super Series National Championship races held every September in front of The Horny Toad Entertainment Complex, Shady Gators and the new Resort & Yacht Club @ Toad Cover, where the world's fastest boats come to compete and gain glory, are scheduled for September 25-27. Festivities surrounding the event include a chance to meet racers at the race village, an up-close look at the boats as they're lowered into the water and a free concert featuring Rick Derringer on Saturday, Sept. 26 at The Horny Toad Entertainment Complex. Other entertainment includes Liverpool, a Beatles tribute band, on Friday evening and Bali Root on Sunday evening. A fireworks display leads off the evening entertainment. Designated parking areas will be established for spectatoes to park and shuttle to The Horney Toad and Shady Gators for the event. Copies of the 2009 Official Program Guide are available at The Horny Toad while they last.

Last year's Horny Toad Offshore Super Series National Championship race was the biggest event to ever come to the Lake of the Ozarks. Racers and fans alike came from across the country to see the fastest boats in the world race head to head for the national title. Racers said it was one of the best-run events they had ever participated in. They also reported achieving much higher speeds on the course than expected. It was truly a successful event that will be surpassed this year with a bigger, better and faster experience.

An estimated 50,000 spectators watched the races from the shore, with another 2,000 or more boats full of fans anchored along the race course. The Lake of the Ozarks Convention and Visitors Bureau estimated that The Horny Toad Offshore Super Series National Championship races brought an additional $4.2 million in revenue to the local community.

The 2009 event will broadcast in the Lake-area on KQUL radio 102.7 and can be viewed on Charter Cable Channel 9 on Sunday. The race will re-broadcast at later dates and times on a number of cable networks.

For updates, sponsorship opportunities, VIP tickets and general information, visit www.ossnationals.com or www.toadcove.com. Hotel accommodations and viewing balconies are also available at The Resort & Yacht Club @ Toad Cove by calling 888.365.5620. •



MOVING on up


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT ALLEN CONSTRUCTION

...while prices are moving on down. It's a cost-effective economy for those who want to build homes at the Lake.

BY TAYLOR ENGLER

The slow construction period for homebuilding at the Lake of the Ozarks has created a unique cost-saving opportunity for those with the cash and the desire for a great deal on a new home.

Ron Westenhaver of Summit Building Corps, a design-build firm that has been creating homes at the Lake for 28 years, says the economic downturn means that those with the means to build can get more bang for their buck.

"The people who are building and buying now have a great opportunity for cost advantage," Ron says. "All of our supplies – anything but oil products – you can buy at an advantage. Drywall, siding, plumbing, framing – all the elements of basic construction – are being sold at prices better than two years ago."

The current economy also means land prices have been slashed, and Ron says costs that were rising until 2007 are now static or equal to what they were three years ago. While much of the Lake has already been developed, plenty of suitable lots are still available.

"We used to call properties here a 'diamond in the rough,'" Ron says. "Now it just takes a little more research, and you want to work with knowledgeable people who understand your needs [when property hunting]."

In order to meet his clients' needs and desires, Ron likes to visit their current residence to view their lifestyle, from where they eat their meals to how they spend their leisure time. Building a home on the Lake means they can make these specifications and others right down to the home's orientation and views of the water. "You can't buy that with an existing property," Ron says.

With the cost-effective advantages that he thinks might continue at the Lake for the next two years, a dream home can be bought at a realistic price. •

TRY ONE OF THESE COMMUNITIES:

Community	Location	Price Range	Phone	Website
Bella Terra Villas	Located on MM past Porta Cima and the Villages	$349,000-$499,000	573.374.1302	www.bellaterravillas.com
Blue Anchor Bay Condos page 86	Located at the ½ mile marker on the Gravois arm	$179,900-$259,900	573.372.0022	www.blueanchorbaycondos.com
The Hamptons at the Lake	Located at the 18 mile marker in Osage Beach	$350,000-$450,000	573.302.2355	www.thehamptonsatthelake.com
Le Reve Estates	Located at the 21 mile marker in Osage Beach	$375,000-$1,100,000	573.216.2957	www.johnfarrell.com
Monarch Cove Condos	Located at the 2 mile marker on Horseshoe Bend Parkway	$185,000-$290,000	573.365.3328	www.monarchcovecondo.com
Mystic Bay Condos	Located on Highway 54-49 in Osage Beach	$293,000-$358,900	573.374.1140	www.morrisonsrealty.net
Nichols View Estates	Located at the 19 mile marker	$105,850-$528,500	402.333.1462	www.mcneilcompany.com
Oak Hill Forest	Located 5 miles north of Osage Beach	$139,000-$225,000	573.365.9444	www.oakhillforest.com
Osage National Golf Resort page 83	Located on Osage Hills Road in Lake Ozark	$144,900-$151,900	573.365.1950	www.osagenational.com
Pointe Royale Condos	Located at the 4 mile marker of the Big Niangua Arm	$120,000-$195,000	573.365.3330	www.pointeroyalecondos.net
The Riviera Condominiums	Located at Business 54 and Horseshoe Bend Parkway	$342,000-$499,000	573.302.2355	www.therivieracondos.com
Royale Palms Vista	Off Highway 5 on the 35 mile marker	$199,000-$263,000	573.374.2222	www.royalepalmscondominiums.com
Sunset Palms	Located by the Hurricane Deck Bridge at the 35 mile marker	$150,000-$350,000	573.374.9915	www.sunsetpalmscondos.com
Tuscany Condominiums	Located at the 31 mile marker; on Lake Road 5-89	$200,000-$340,000	573.873.5678	www.tuscanycondominiums.com

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Grape destinations



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Fall is the season of harvest and of enjoying the (literal) fruits of labor.

BY MELISSA FERRY

For more than half a century, the Lake of the Ozarks has been one of the hottest destinations for summer fun in the Midwest. Added to the list of water, greens, shopping and entertainment is a growing number of vineyards and wineries in and around the area. Load these address into your navigation system and take a trip in search of truth. *In vino veritas!*

Seven Springs Winery

846 Winery Hills Estates
Linn Creek, MO 65052
573.317.0100
www.sevenspringswinery.com

Seven Springs Winery is the latest addition to the cadre of Lake-area wineries. On 160 acres just off Y Road in Linn Creek, Mike Bleile and fiancé Jennifer Summary re-created their favorite nuances from many different wineries they have visited.

Making wine has been in Mike's family for generations. As a young boy, he watched his grandfather and uncle make wine in stone crocks out of everything from blackberries to dandelions. Today, he is a vintner-in-training, producing nine wines under the Seven Springs label with the assistance of Crown Valley Winery.

"What we've worked to create is a

laid-back atmosphere where friends and families can come to enjoy good food, fine wine, beautiful scenery, and just relax and have a good time," he says.

Casa de Loco Winery

442 Redbird Lane
Camdenton, MO 65020
573.317.9695
www.casadelocowinery.com

Casa de Loco Winery is located just west of Camdenton on a bluff high above the Big Niangua River. The three buildings that now house the winery, guest rooms and reception hall were constructed in 1930. Nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, great care has been take to preserve the historic integrity of the structures.

According to local history, the property has been a private retreat, fishing resort and healthcare facility for the elderly and mentally ill until it closed in the late 1970s. Today, Casa de Loco Winery offers many wines, some with amusing names – such as Schizo Bianco, Strait Jacket Syrah and Labottleme – in reference to the winery's past.

It's open daily for wine tasting, tours and reservations. Several decks have been added that overlook the river. Guests are encouraged to bring their picnic supplies and spend the day or even the night in luxury accommodations.

Grey Bear Vineyard and Winery

25992 Highway T
Stover, MO 65708
573.377.4313
www.greybearvineyards.com

Grey Bear Vineyards and Winery's owners, David and Marschall Fansler, aren't new to the business. David's been growing grapes since 1986, when he worked at Rocky Hill Winery in Montrose, CO. There, he won three gold,


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three silver and four bronze medals for his wines. He brought his skill under the Grey Bear label in 2003, when he and Marschall purchased the winery and has won more recognition in Missouri by garnering eight more medals.

"If you get 20 people in a room, you'll get 20 different opinions about wine," David says. "I try to make a variety of wines so everyone will find something they like."

Full of ideas and plans for the future, the Fanslers have continued to expand over the years. The latest addition of Black Canyon Ale House Microbrewery & Bistro, on the first floor above the winery, has been a huge success.

"We want everyone who visits to relax and enjoy themselves, so we offer something for everyone," Marschall says.

Eichenberg Valley

103 N. Olive St.
Cole Camp, MO 65325
660.668.3511
www.eichenbergwinery.com

Eichenberg Winery is nestled in the heart of historic Cole Camp in what was once a blacksmith shop built in the early 1900s. Proprietors Rodger and Theila Luetjen wanted the winery to reflect the rich German heritage of the area, naming it Eichenberg, which loosely translates as "Oak Hills."

The building was recently nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, but the vineyard is a relatively young venture, starting in 1996. With the help of the entire family and many friends, the Luetjens cultivate 10 varieties of grapes for production.

Visitors are encouraged to chat about various topics in addition to learning about wine at the tasting counter. Gardens on the property are there for enjoying a full bottle, and the historic town is filled with antique and gift shops for browsing. •



STAYING *connected*

Advanced technology follows you to the lake, and keeps you online and in-touch off and on the water.

BY KERRI FIVECOAT-CAMPBELL

If you're not on the water at the Lake of the Ozarks, what *are* you doing? Many homeowners are entertaining in style with home media and theater. Robert Allen is one of them. When his son visits from New York, he wants everyone to enjoy time together, and that often involves listening to surround sound or watching digital satellite television.

Robert, a Kansas City-based builder who also does projects around the Lake, adds that a lot of his clients want the same thing – not only to enjoy their time at the Lake, but also to stay connected back home. "A lot of people we build homes for are business people and come for three or four days to a week at a time, and they need to stay in touch while they're away," he explains.

The spectrum of how technologically connected you can be while at the Lake runs from opting for basic Internet service and satellite television with surround sound to wiring the house fully with flat-screen televisions, surround sound in every room (including those outside) and installing home theater systems.

Movies at Home

Jamie Corwin, co-owner of The Entertainer, a Jefferson City-based company that installs entertainment and security systems in homes on the Lake, says that a growing number of people are opting for home theaters. "Many people are putting in dedicated rooms rather than having just their television and surround sound in the family room downstairs or on the main floor," he says. "We're definitely seeing more being spent on making true theaters with columns, theater seating and the [electronic] systems that go with that."

He also notes that attitudes have shifted since he began in the business in 1981. "Even in bigger, nicer homes, people would want nice systems but not necessarily go all out on a lake home. Now we are definitely seeing people who want the best entertainment and security systems they can get and are spending more money to get them," says Jamie, estimating that the cost of a home theater can run from $12,000 for a basic system to more than $75,000 for a top-of-the-line system that includes theater seats.

Blu-ray systems are now also a common request, as are audio-video distribution systems, which sync videos with music, giving a concert-like feel.

Notably, these advanced systems aren't limited to just your residence; Jamie says boat owners can take advantage as well. "When people are at the Lake, it's all about the party," he says, adding that sometimes people even spend more on audio-

video systems for their boats than they do in their homes.

I Spy

One of the newest and most practical ways to stay connected is to keep a watchful eye on your lake home when you're not there. Some security systems allow you to position cameras in and around your home and log onto the Internet to see what's happening while you're away. Cameras are wired to a DVR, which records motion. You can check to see if your home and boat are safe after a storm or if anything has been stolen from the property. Most systems also give you the option of remotely controlling the system so your security code may remain confidential.

New homes are typically wired in advance for this, but if you want to install such a security system in an older home, you can opt for wireless, which is a little less reliable but still provides good protection, Jamie says. A typical homeowner installs four to six cameras and spends between $5,000 and $6,000 on a system.

The Future is almost Here

"People are really looking for high-tech in their lake homes now," agrees Fran Campbell Johnson, a local real estate agent with Re/Max. Unfortunately, in some remote areas of the Lake, Internet options aren't that great. Many homeowners still only have the option for Internet or satellite, or wireless cards if they can get a signal from a cellular tower. If you're going with a satellite hook-up, it can be routed to wireless Internet for the house. Others can hook up DSL if cable is available.

All lake homes, however, already have the option to make the future now. Jamie says there is more interest in "smart homes," which can be programmed to turn music, lights, a home theater system and other gadgets on at a certain time. "The future is starting to become more real," he says. "It's not quite here yet, but we're getting closer." •



A Historic Charmer


BEFORE

BY KATIE UNDERHILL
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
MICHAEL JACOB

History repeats itself with the restoration of a late 19th-century look.

CHALLENGE: To restore a Webster Groves home, built in 1892, to its original appearance using modern materials while also preserving the historic and architectural integrity of the home.

SOLUTION: Inspired by the discovery of a dated photograph that captured the home's original appearance, homeowners Brent and Casey decided to transform their home's façade into a stunning replica of its original form. Its unique character and original details had been buried under 117 years of countless renovations by previous owners. Square columns and plain railing on the wraparound porch had replaced original, 1892 era-specific structures. In order to restore the home to its late 19th-century style, Robben Contracting, Inc. rebuilt the porch entirely in keeping with the authentic look of the home, which is situated in a National Registry of Historic Places neighborhood. The porch was extended by 2 feet to create a charming outdoor living space, and Bob Robben skillfully rebuilt the complex columns and intricate latticework, marrying modern construction with the home's historic aesthetic. Fiddlecreek Construction designed and laid the stone walkways and landscape walls. While a view from the street suggests the home is now a replica of the original, the renovated space features new recessed lighting, speakers, and rope lighting inside the porch's crown molding. "We love it," says Casey, whose favorite part of the renovation was enjoying her first cup of coffee on the porch.

"The new porch is an ideal gathering space for the family." – Casey, homeowner

 See page 74 for design resources.






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